

Result-based schemes for nature conservation in agricultural landscapes - challenges and outlook

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Background:

A literature review was conducted for Germany, Austria, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Ireland and Spain to determine which result-based schemes are implemented in these countries and how they are designed. A total of 39 schemes were identified (see Fig. 1).

Results:

The review showed that:

- 1) In addition to purely result-oriented schemes, numerous hybrid schemes are implemented (Fig. 2). Hybrid schemes are those that include action-based elements in addition to outcome-based ones.
- 2) The majority of schemes are focused on grassland and only a few on arable land.
- 3) Flora indicators are applied in the majority of schemes, especially in Germany (Fig. 3).
- 4) With few exceptions, all schemes res are state-funded.

Outlook:

Based on the results, the following conclusions can be drawn:

Advice and training: The role of advise and training will become even more important in the future.

Hybrid systems: Important alternative to purely result-based schemes for risk-averse farmers, especially against the background of climate change risks.

Landscape approach: Future schemes should take a landscape-scale approach.

Monitoring: Artificial intelligence (AI) is one option to reduce monitoring costs in the future.



Fig. 1: Number of schemes identified in the literature review

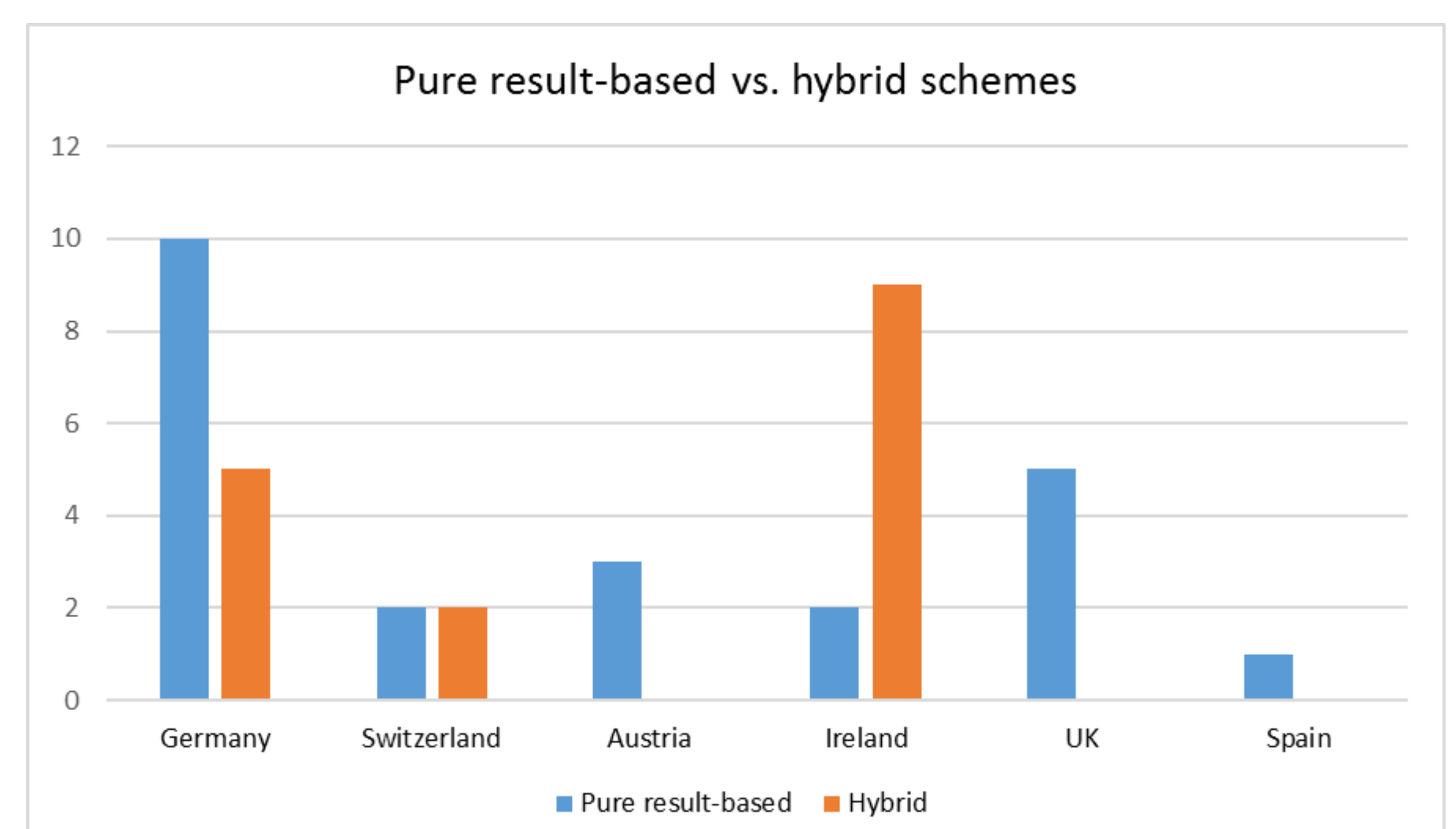


Fig. 2: Number of purely result-based and hybrid schemes

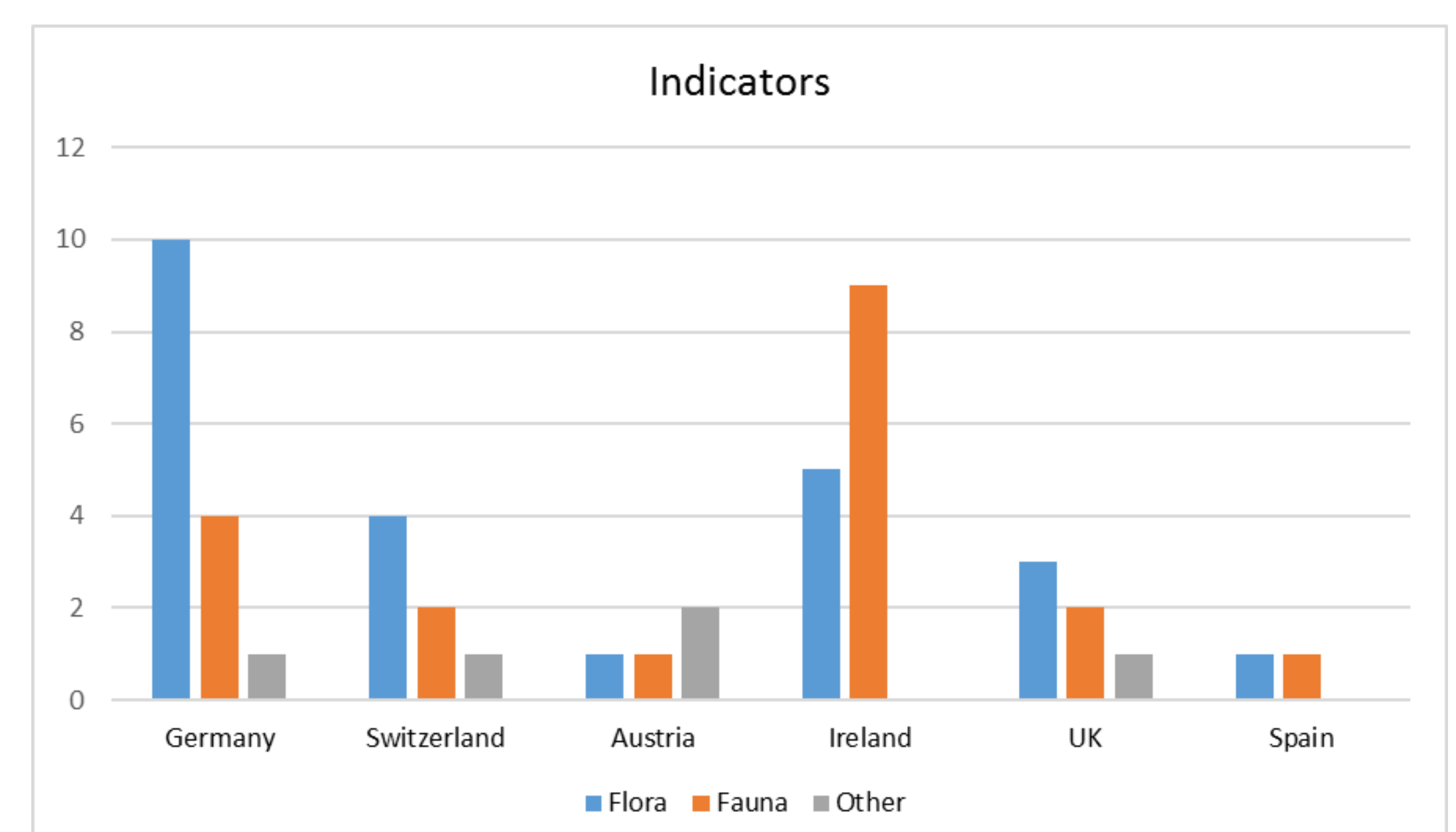


Fig. 3: Flora, Fauna and other indicators